

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1 to 3 are cancelled and claims 4, 6 to 10, 13, 14 and 18 to 21 are amended as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1 to 3 (Cancelled).

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 3,~~
~~wherein~~ An exhaust-gas muffler for an internal combustion engine
including for an internal combustion engine in a portable
handheld work apparatus, the exhaust-gas muffler comprising:

5 a muffler housing having an inlet opening and an outlet;
 said muffler housing including an attenuating space formed
 therein;

a resonance pipe fluidly connected to said inlet opening;
 said muffler housing including an upper half shell and a
10 lower half shell and said half shells at least partially
 delimiting said resonance pipe;

a partition wall being mounted between said half shells;
 said partition wall delimiting said resonance pipe; and,
 a first longitudinal section of said resonance pipe ~~[[is]]~~
15 being formed by said lower half shell and said partition wall and
 a second longitudinal section of said resonance pipe ~~[[is]]~~ being

formed by said upper half shell and said partition wall.

5. (Original) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 4, wherein said partition wall defines a connecting opening between said first and second longitudinal sections.

6. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein said upper and lower half shells conjointly define said muffler housing.

7. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein said lower half shell includes said inlet opening; and, said outlet is formed in said lower half shell.

8. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein said housing has attachment openings; and, said upper half shell, said lower half shell and said partition wall are connected seal tight to each other in the region of said attachment openings.

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9. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein the end of said resonance pipe facing away from said inlet opening is configured to be closed.

10. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein said inlet opens into said attenuating space ~~is configured~~ as a diaphragm.

11. (Original) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 10, wherein said diaphragm is configured in said partition wall and establishes a connection between said attenuating space and said inlet opening.

12. (Original) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 10, wherein said diaphragm is configured in one of said half shells and establishes a connection between the end of said resonance pipe facing away from said inlet opening and said attenuating space.

13. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 10, wherein said diaphragm has an equivalent diameter (d , d') measured in millimeters which amounts to approximately 1 to 3 times the square root of the volume of the piston displacement of said engine with said volume being measured in cubic centimeters.

14. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 10, wherein said diaphragm has an equivalent diameter (d , d') measured in millimeters which amounts to approximately 1.2 to 2.4 times the square root of the volume of the piston displacement of said engine with said volume being measured in cubic centimeters.

15. (Original) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 14, wherein said equivalent diameter (d , d') is variable in dependence upon the rpm of said engine.

16. (Original) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 15, wherein said resonance pipe has an equivalent diameter (D) measured in

millimeters which amounts to approximately 2.5 to 6 times the square root of the volume of the piston displacement of said engine with said volume being measured in cubic centimeters.

17. (Original) The exhaust-gas muffler of claim 16, wherein said equivalent diameter (D) of said resonance pipe is approximately constant over the length (L) thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein the length (L) of said resonance pipe is matched to the engine speed (rpm) of said engine.

19. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein the length (L) of said resonance pipe is matched to 60% to 100% of the rated rpm of said engine speed (rpm).

20. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, further comprising a catalytic converter.

[[20.]] 21. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas muffler of ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein said resonance pipe is one of a plurality of resonance pipes; and, wherein said exhaust-gas muffler further comprises means for switching in and out at least one of said resonance pipes.

Amendments to the Drawings:

On page 2, paragraph 1, of the action, the drawings were objected to because the subject matter of claim 20 was not shown in the drawings. Accordingly, applicants propose to amend FIG. 3 of the drawing as shown in red ink on the annotated sheet of FIG. 3. The catalytic converter is identified by reference numeral 40 in FIG. 3 and there shown partially in phantom outline. A replacement sheet is also attached to this amendment.

The disclosure is amended on page 8 to make appropriate reference to the catalytic converter.

The Examiner's approval of this amendment of the drawings is respectfully requested.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes